"TEMPLARY IS THE NEW TESTAMENT OF MASONRY"

THE TEMPLAR

A FRIENDLY VOICE OF TEMPLAR INTEREST TO KNIGHTS TEMPLAR

Official publication of the Grand Commandery of Knights Templar and the Appendant Orders of Massachusetts and Rhode Island

GEORGE A. WEEKS
Grand Recorder

FREDERIC KENNEDY
Grand Commander

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Right Eminent Sirs and Sir Knights

GREETINGS:

Thanksgiving Day has passed, and I wonder how many of us paused and pondered for a moment to consider the manifold blessings for which we should be truly thankful: our American way of life, where every man is "Master of his fate and the Captain of his soul;" freedom from slavery, tyranny and oppression of despots; the right to worship God according to the dictates of our conscience; -- these are but a few of our privileges in a world torn by strife and unrest. Please God, may our way of life never change.

Our Inspections for the current year have started, and those thus far held were notable for the exceptionally fine work and for the good attendance of the members and the large Suites of the Inspecting officers.

The York Rite Nites are underway with three already scheduled and I hope many more to follow. It is the intention of the Grand Commander to attend all these gatherings, but in a case where it is impossible for him to do so, a Grand Commandery officer will be assigned to represent him and Grand Commandery.

This is the month when we celebrate a birthday that is acclaimed throughout the civilized world - the Birth of our Christ, the Lord, who died that we might live. Our Order was founded upon the Christian religion and the practices of the Christian virtues. "Bear this ever in mind and continue His faithful soldier unto death."

My sincere wish for you and your household is a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

Courteously and fraternally,

Frederic Kennedy
Grand Commander.

EXCERPTS FROM GEORGE WASHINGTON, THE MASON FROM HISTORY BY EARL W. TAYLOR, GRAND SECY.

200 years ago on November 4, 1752, George Washington, a comparatively unknown young man, not yet 21 years of age, was initiated an Entered Apprentice Mason in "The Lodge at Fredericksburgh" Virginia. He was passed March 3, and raised August 4, the next year. How much Washington thought of his Masonry is a matter of record, not only in his writings, but in his acts. He wrote many letters to lodges, Grand Lodges and brethren; and his words invariably revealed his high opinion of the fraternity. Frequently he visited lodges and attended other functions in which Masons were chiefly or wholly concerned. Finally, in 1793, when the cornerstone of the United States Capitol was laid by the Grand Lodge of Maryland, Worshipful Brother George Washington, upon invitation, acted as Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Maryland pro tem in the significant portion of the ceremony.

Thus, to all Masons in these United States, the memory of George Washington is very dear.

PROGRAM - Mechanics Building, Boston,
Sunday, November 9, 1952

Call to Order
Seating of Honored Guests
Invocation
Vocal Selection, Aleppo Temple Chanters
Presentation of Bicentennial Commitee
Introduction of the Most Worshipful Grand Master of Masons in Massachusetts and Distinguished Guests
Music, Aleppo Temple Band
Address, M.W. Thomas Sherrard Roy, Grand Master
Vocal Selection, Aleppo Temple Chanters
Music, Aleppo Temple Band
Living Pictures of Events in Life of Bro. George Washington by the Scottish Rite Bodies in the Valley of Boston - who presented the following tableaux:

Washington at Fredericksburgh, 1752
Washington at Cambridge, 1775
Washington Crossing the Delaware, 1776
Washington at Valley Forge, 1777
Washington at Richmond, 1784
Washington at Philadelphia, 1787
Washington at New York, 1789
Washington, the Mason

Spirit of '76
Grandfather .....William M. Oliver
Father.....Frank A. Beevers
Son.....Henry Grieve
Vocal Selection
Group Singing - "God Bless America"
Benediction.

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The following letter was received by our Grand Commander from Ransom W. (Ranny) Stiles, Chairman of the Bicentennial Committee of the Combined Greater Boston Masonic Districts:

"I wish to thank you and the Grand Recorder, George A. Weeks, for your support to our Bicentennial activities which were brought to a climax on Sunday, Nov. 9th. The active support given by the members of the Commanderies participating and most of them not young men, in a parade under the most trying conditions should be an inspiration to all Masons. Words to express just how I feel seem impossible to assemble. Just these few which I sincerely mean, thanks to one and all."

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SOUTHERN BLOOD - New Orleans Masons have carried on a highly successful project for the past 2 years. It is a blood bank which has supplied more than 2700 pints of blood for Freemasons and their families. More than 1900 have given blood to the bank which has served over 100 Louisiana lodges. The bank has never failed to fill a request from a Louisiana member.

Ed.Note: If Louisiana can do this, Massachusetts can do better!

Did YOU know that the Service Department of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has a working agreement with the American Red Cross wherein any Mason or member of his immediate family can obtain blood by calling HAncock 6-6040, ext. 24, and that during the past 12 months this Department has handled 400 requests for blood amounting to about 2400 pints of blood. The reason for being able to obtain this blood has been because of the generosity of hundreds of Masons throughout the state who have donated their blood to the American Red Cross either through their headquarters at 314 Dartmouth Street, Boston, or upon the visit of the Bloodmobile.

God forbid that you will ever need this service; but if you should, have you done your part in making a personal investment?

A MESSAGE FROM THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Knights Templar of the present day are men who by their loyalty and devotion are making Templary the splendid Christian Order which has the respect and admiration of the public at large, and good fellowship and loyal friendships have made the Order stand for something of supreme value in life.

Those who have labored for Templary find in it something friendly, comforting, and satisfying; we are not entirely ritualistic, rather it is laid in the hearts of men who are working for the good of the Order.

And then no organization is worthwhile, or worth belonging to, unless it has a program for benefiting others than its own members. Our Order has such a major program in the highly creditable program of the Educational Foundation which each year aids thousands of students who would be unable to continue and finish their college courses without financial assistance.

And so we might say that membership, as such, and alone, has never been our only or major objective, although it is very essential that we not only maintain our members, but grow proportionately if we hope to attain greater strength and sustain the efforts of our Order. The program and performance of our duties as Sir Knights is the real secret to the growth and health of our Commanderies.

Remember, too, your responsibility as a Sponsor. For every petitioner for the Orders there are two Sir Knights upon whom rests a responsibility for properly looking out for him. If you invite a guest to a gathering at your home, you make sure he meets all of the other guests and is made welcome and comfortable.

Isn't the Masonic brother whom you recommend to Templary entitled to the same courtesy?

As his Sponsor, it is your duty to assist him in every way possible and take an interest in his progress through the three Orders. If you recommend one to Templary, satisfy yourself that he is receiving all of that for which you recommend him. To do this is but a knightly courtesy, and it is also a knightly duty.

Courteously yours,
FRANK H. WILSON, Chairman
For the Committee.

YOUR STANDING IN PREREQUISITE BODIES

Frequent misunderstanding exists in the minds of some Nobles regarding the mandatory law of the Imperial Council which requires a Noble to maintain his good standing in the prerequisite bodies of either the York or Scottish Rites.

Briefly stated, to be a member of the Shrine, one must belong to either (1) the Commandery, or (2) the Consistory of the Scottish Rite.

It is not compulsory to be a member of both rites, but good standing in the rite of one's choice is obligatory.

To maintain membership in a Commandery, you must be in good standing in both the Blue Lodge and the Chapter.

To maintain membership as a 32° Scottish Rite Mason, you must be in good standing in the Blue Lodge.

Since membership in either a Commandery or the Scottish Rite is predicated upon good standing in the Blue Lodge, it is obvious that if your membership is severed in the Blue Lodge, you are automatically dropped in all other Masonic bodies of which you might be a member.

Every link in the chain of your affiliation must be preserved intact. Every life membership in any Masonic body becomes invalid if your connection with preceding bodies is allowed to lapse.

ANNUAL XMAS OFFERING AND GOOD CHEER

During the Christmas Season it has become the custom in the greatest Christian Order that ever existed to request each Commander to make an earnest appeal to his entire membership for a Holiday Contribution, that we may glorify GOD by helping man; by seeking out the lonely to cheer them, the sad to comfort them, the distressed to relieve them and the orphans and widows to gladden them. Let each Sir Knight merely search his own heart and if financially able, contribute at least $1.00 to his Commandery Xmas Fund. The total amount collected is to be spent by the Council of the respective Commanderies under the direction of the Commander, LET'S MAKE 1952 THE BEST YEAR EVER!

"Feed the hungry, clothe the naked and bind up the wounds of the afflicted."

THE TEMPLAR wishes all Sir Knights a Very Merry Xmas and a Happy New Year!

COMMANDERIES	2MOS.	NOV.	TOT.	QUOTA
St. Johns	6	3	9	65
Boston	3	3	6	110
Newburyport	1	-	1	16
Washington	-	2	2	6
Worcester County	1	2	3	30
Springfield	12	2	14	30
De Molay	5	-	5	85
Holy Sepulchre	8	5	13	18
Pilgrim	1	2	3	20
Palestine	-	1	1	10
Milford	1	-	1	6
St. Bernard	1	2	3	6
Calvary	2	2	4	35
Haverhill	1	4	5	20
Old Colony	1	-	1	15
Sutton	1	3	4	45
Bethany	-	1	1	10
Winslow Lewis	-	1	1	12
Jerusalem	7	1	8	25
Hugh de Payens	3	5	8	60
St. Omer	1	-	1	20
Berkshire	2	2	4	15
Conn. Valley	3	-	3	12
Woonsocket	9	-	9	35
Godfrey de Bouillon	2	1	3	10
Joseph Warren	2	-	2	5
Narragansett	6	-	6	12
Bristol	7	-	7	20
Northampton	1	-	1	6
South Shore	2	-	2	12
Trinity	4	-	4	15
Natick	0	-	0	10
Coeur de Lion	8	-	8	25
Gethsemane	4	-	4	65
Olivet	2	-	2	20
Athol	-	-	-	5
Bay State	2	-	2	25
Cypres	2	-	2	12
St. Paul	-	-	-	10
Beauseant	2	-	2	18
Cambridge	1	-	1	6
Bethlehem	1	1	2	8
Orange	-	-	-	5
Ivanhoe	2	4	6	25
Quincy	2	7	9	12
Temple	5	1	6	28
St. Andrew	2	1	3	15
Reading	3	1	4	25
Thomas Smith Webb	-	-	-	10
Sir Galahad	-	-	-	8
Total	129	57	186	

FIRST THREE MONTHS

	OBJ.	ATT.
Sept.	73	52
Oct.	99	77
Nov.	69	57

ACCUMULATIVE

	OBJ	ATT.
Sept.	72	52
Oct.	172	129
Nov.	241	186

COMPARISON

	This Year	1952	1951	1950
Sept.	52	97	62	52
Oct.	129	215	125	144
Nov.	186	277	185	185
Dec.		352	264	270

Courteously yours,

FRANK H. WILSON
Chairman -
Membership and
Publicity Committee